

TN COMMISSION OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
Quarterly Meeting
Saturday, 16 May 2009, 10am, Knoxville

MINUTES

present Val Ohle James Meeks
 Bill Wells tom kunesh

meeting staff: Mark James, TDEC attorney
 (+ 6 public attendees)

1. Approved joint Memorandum of Agreement per request from Dennis Berry, SPF-SIG Coalition Manager, Dept of Mental Health, state Division of Alcohol & Drug Abuse Services re. Community Partnership Agreement on Alcohol and Substance Abuse Treatment Program (presentation by Dennis Berry, Coalition Manager, Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Services, TN Department of Mental Health & Developmental Disabilities, Nashville; targeting inappropriate alcohol consumption ages 14-25 identify Native American county contacts/ volunteers \$2.3 5-year grant federal grant from SAMSA
2. Approved motion to disapprove HB1692 as amended.
(Minority Affairs - As introduced, grants state recognition to certain Indian tribes, bands, and groups; provides means for other Indian tribes, bands, and groups to receive state recognition.)
3. Status of rulemaking process for state tribal recognition criteria : public hearing set for Saturday, 8 August at 10am at the Region 3 TDOT administrative building, Centennial Blvd., Nashville.
4. Approved motion (2-1) to empower chair, per TCA 4-34-103.10, in conjunction with TDEC legal counsel, to issue subpoenas to "Confederation of Tennessee Native Tribes" and members for documentation of Native American Indian status, to obtain information based on recognition criteria passed previously by the Commission.

The Commission of Indian Affairs requires the following documents from

- (1) Confederation of Tennessee Native Tribes;
- (2) Remnant Yuchi Nation;
- (3) Upper Cumberland Cherokee (aka United Eastern Lenape Nation);
- (4) Chikamaka Band;
- (5) Central Band of Cherokee (aka Cherokee of Lawrence County);
- (6) Cherokee Wolf Clan;
- (7) Tanasi Council of the Far Away Cherokee;
- (8) Native Cultural Council;
- (9) American Indian Association of Millington:

1. list of officers, addresses, phone numbers, email addresses
 2. bylaws
 3. founding date
 4. names of founding officers, addresses, phone numbers, email addresses
 5. base roll of members if organization is referenced in HB1692
 6. roll of current members, tribal relationship, addresses, phone numbers, email addresses
 7. explanation of relationships between individuals on original base roll and roll of current individual members
 8. list and explanation of members who are members of other federally- or state-recognized tribes or non-Indian
 9. concise history of tribal group/organization beginning in 1830
 10. copies of all original historical documents showing a relationship between the group and the State of Tennessee or U.S.A. governments
 11. concise history of organization's political and community influence, and involvement in Native American Indian concerns
 12. a copy of the applicant's present governing document and/or a statement describing in full the membership criteria and the procedures through which the group governs its affairs and members;
 13. a list of all known current members of the group and a copy of any available list of former members, based on the organizations' own defined criteria;
 14. the organization's membership criteria
 15. a history of the applicant from 1900 to present (maximum of 2000 words, unless an exception is granted by the Commission) written by a professional historian or anthropologist;
 16. letters, statements, and documents from city, county, state, or federal authorities that document a history of tribal related business and activities that specifically address Native American Indian culture, preservation, and affairs;
 17. letters, statements, and documents from federal or state recognized tribes in and/or outside of Tennessee which attest to the Indian heritage of the group;
 18. a signed and notarized statement from the officers of the applicant affirming that, to the best of their knowledge, information, and belief, the information provided is true and accurate.
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5. Discussed request for an opinion from the state Attorney General re. Does HB1692/SB1978 conflict with federal law?
Texas AG Op and the Muscogee letter
 6. Discussed use of state funds for "Native American Guide" published by Southeast Tennessee Tourism Association without Commission contact, and need for TCIA contact with state agencies.
 7. Notice given re. Sacred Sites Prayer Day - saturday, 20 june
 8. Proposed 2010 legislative initiatives:
 - a. Dragging Canoe Memorial
 - b. Historic Tribes Recognition
 - c. Tribal Recognition Criteria
 - d. TCIA nomination process reform
 9. Public comments heard.
 10. Meeting adjourned.